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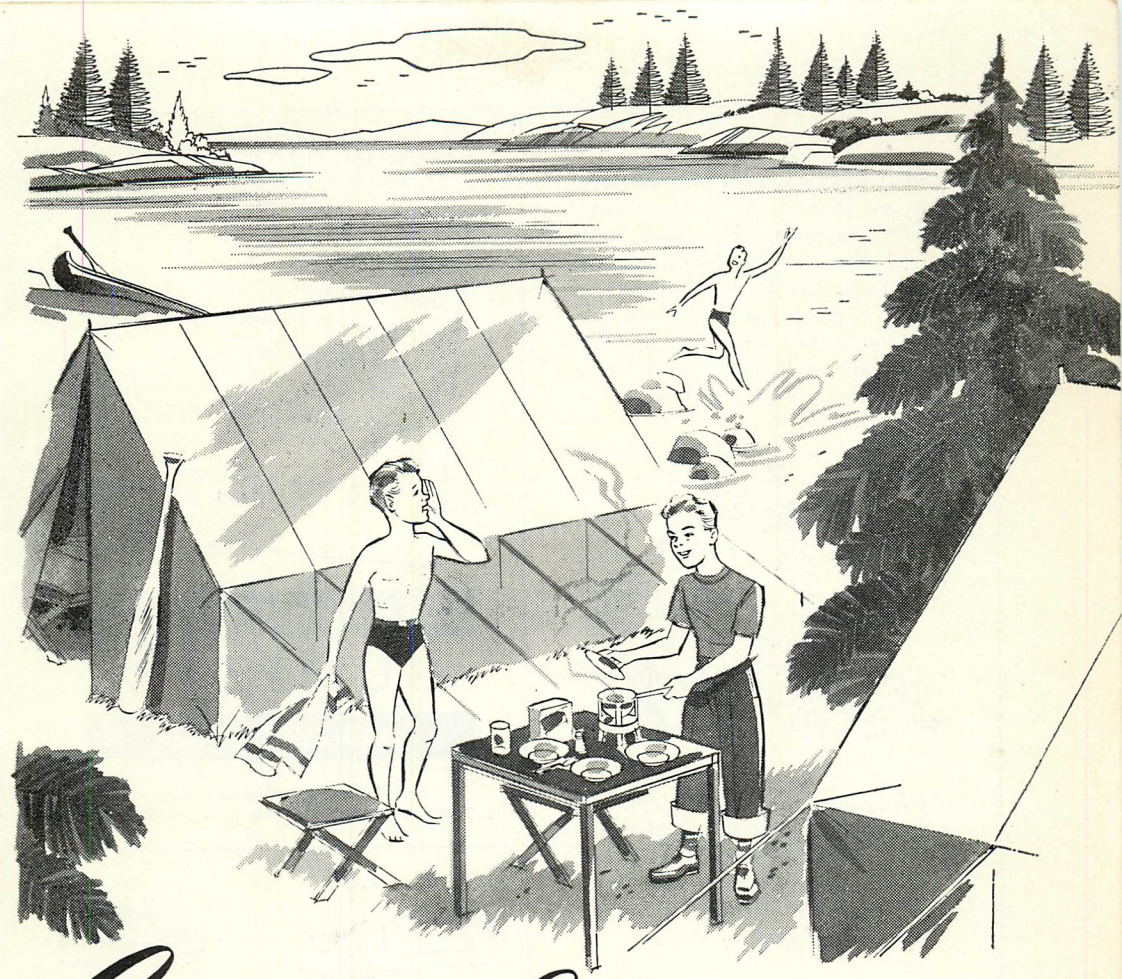
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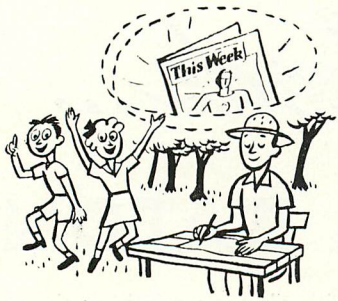
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CANADIAN CAMPING

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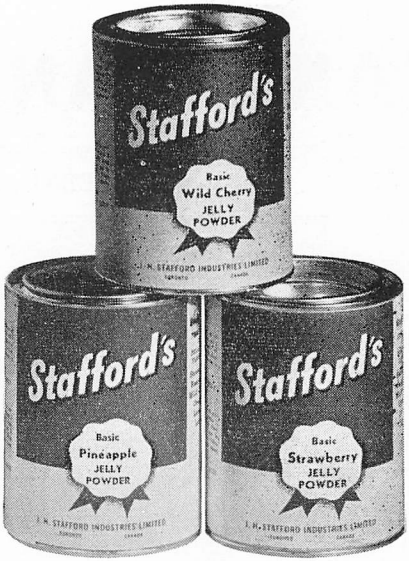
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LEADERSHIP —

One of the most important, and at the same time, perplexing problems which will confront camp directors during the next few months is that of reaching decisions in regard to counselor personnel. Scores of applicants, many with interesting qualifications, will present themselves, but few people realize how difficult is the sifting-out process essential to securing the right person. Preliminary inquiries relating to native ability, training and experience swiftly bring eliminations, but in the end the all-important question is that of leadership. To discover the strength and quality of leadership without seeing it in action is by no means easy. It is true, however, that as sunshine is to the physical atmosphere, so is leadership to the social, psychological and spiritual atmosphere of camp relations -- leadership of the type that is radiant, confident, selfless and serene, not only in fair weather and when the going is smooth, but shining in all weathers with a clear, steady, comforting radiance. Only leadership of this quality will create and maintain the atmosphere of harmony and confidence which makes for deep-seated and undistrubed joyousness throughout the camp season.

One may well ask at this point: "What is leadership?" "What are the requirements for the best type of leadership?" Here, I shall quote from a thought-provoking* address on leadership, given at a conference of organizers at Ashford, England, by Sir Wm. Haley, Director General of the British Broadcasting Corporation. "First, last and all the time, leadership is responsibility . . . The rest is a matter of human relationships. One requirement is so essential that I would have it stay in your mind. It is this: *No one can lead others unless he can lead himself.* It is no new idea, but with modern psychology and other studies, we are coming more to understand its force. Outward command can only exist where there is inward command. The man or woman who has not yet successfully coped with himself or herself cannot expect to cope with others. If I am right in believing that leadership depends on character—and, above all, on the acceptance of character by others, then the leader who will be followed is the one who has won his or her own battle. For these things are clear and they are far more perceptible than one ever realizes; indeed, in the course of long and steady association with others, they cannot be hidden. If there is not confidence and harmony within oneself, one will not long naturally be able to induce them in others. For a time they may be induced artificially; but the effect will more and more weaken till the whole effort breaks down. The greatest leaders are those who have radiated serenity from a full and active mind."

Leadership of that type which springs from integrity, understanding and a genuine interest in individuals, can bring about wonderful results. Furthermore, it will tend to foster and develop leadership whatever the setting may be.

This is particularly desirable with 'teen-agers and even with groups at a lower age level. Counselors and sometimes even camp directors fail to keep this in mind as an objective and to consequently emphasize its importance at counselor meetings. New counselors may ask: "But how?"

It may be done:

(1) by studying one's special group with an eye for aptitude.

(2) by delegating, even to more or less inexperienced campers, real authority, however unpretentious the field.

(3) by carefully considering, and without due haste, the results (successes and failures) and by systematically discussing the situation with each individual.

(4) by testing progress each step of the way and gradually broadening the field of responsibility.

In the normal course of events one can count on more successes than failures, but initiative in developing, confidence and assurance is being built up, a sense of responsibility is emerging.

One of the greatest gifts of leadership is the ability to get everyone to play his or her part. To make each camper feel that they have a contribution to make (even though it may be little more than keeping their own corner of the cabin tidy), will establish an esprit de corps. This cannot fail to constitute a constant challenge to even the youngest camper, to say nothing about the lazy and indifferent ones, and the satisfaction for whatever achievements have been worked out will be shared. That consciousness of being of some value to the group and perhaps to the organization will be an asset not only to the individual but also to the camp as a whole. In this way veins of pure gold will sometimes be tapped and campers as well as counselors who have appeared to have no particular ability will blossom forth with assurance and decision, surprising to themselves as well as to their associates.

Among older groups this particular gift of leadership will stimulate mental and spiritual growth; this is very evident when campers and junior counselors are asked to take some part in morning prayers or in the Sunday service. It will also bring greater understanding of social relationships, activities and give-and-take adjustments which are part of the adult world where they will shortly take their place and for which, in a measure, they will be better prepared.

With a preponderance of the highest type of leadership each successive camp season will become richer and more fruitful in its contribution to the nation. Memories of camp will be to every member, including the service personnel, a never-to-be-forgotten experience of co-operative achievement.

—M. C. J.

* The address appears in the October issue, 1950, of the Canadian Guider.



So YOU'RE GOING TO BUILD

R. K. Cleverdon, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.,
University of Toronto; Director, Camp Kandalore

With spring approaching, many of us are making plans to add new buildings to our camps, to improve our existing facilities and to make room for new campers. Many camp directors know very little about the construction of frame camp buildings and as a result, are often unable to discuss problems intelligently with the carpenters and builders whom they engage. This often means that funds are not spent as wisely as they might be. It is the intention of this article to explain the basic building terms in such a way that camp directors will at least know what their carpenters are talking about. It is felt, too, that many camp buildings throughout Canada have been improperly constructed, with faulty designs, too little attention to minimum space requirements and to the safety of the campers using them. Too many buildings have bowed ridges, sloping walls, sunken foundations and a general air of desolation. And the strange part about it is that the building could usually have been built properly for not more than an additional ten percent expenditure. Many camp directors are unable to predict the cost of a new building. Thus, they are a wonderful target for an unscrupulous contractor. Each section of this article will contain an estimate of the unit costs of the materials mentioned. These are based on current Toronto costs. Labour varies so widely across Canada that it would be wise to either get a labour estimate from a local builder, or else engage competent, speedy carpenters on an hourly basis and keep after them to get the building erected for as little as possible.

This article will cover frame camp buildings only, and since the strength factors implied in the various sections are based on summer occupancy by children for the most part, they must not be used for other conditions. Most camp buildings can be considered as "light occupancy" buildings, housing children or at most three or four staff members. Staff and camper cabins and similar buildings fall under the light occupancy class. Assembly buildings such as lodges and dining halls, craft shops, and possibly administration buildings, need stronger floor systems. It is recommended that if such buildings are planned, the floor system be properly designed by a competent designer.

The starting point in designing a new camp building is the floor plan. Minimum floor areas for cabins are: campers, 40 sq. ft. per camper; junior staff, 60 sq. ft. per person; senior staff and married personnel, 90 sq. ft. per person. Floor plans must be prepared to scale, considering the following: minimum floor area for the desired number of persons, size of beds and other furniture, location of doors and windows (check the position of doors and windows open and shut to be sure of no obstruction), trunk storage or locker

space. Buildings are cheaper if built in 12, 14 or 16 foot dimensions, or multiples thereof. These dimensions are measured from the outsides of the floor, and since the walls and interior partitions are nailed onto the floor, the area is reduced by the amount of space occupied by the walls. Be sure to allow space for alternative arrangements of furniture. Doors should be at least 2'-6" wide.

Space does not permit any more than a cursory mention of exterior architecture. As far as possible, use materials and construction styles which harmonize with the Canadian setting. Rough clapboard or log siding is recommended for exterior sheathing. Stone fireplaces or foundations are excellent. Plenty of large windows let in light and warmth and enhance the "camping out" impressions of youngsters.

If any of the terms are not sufficiently clear to you in the material to follow, you are advised to drop around to a new building being erected in your neighbourhood and ask a few questions. It won't take you long to get used to joist, plate, stud, sill and such terms.

Every building must have a foundation, and it must carry the building loads through to the ground. It thus must be carefully designed. Unfortunately, there is a very common feeling that "anything will do" for a foundation, with the result that an otherwise well-designed building soon leans out of plumb or settles in one corner when the foundation gives way. Under extreme conditions of snow, the total weight of a camp building with its contents and snow load may exceed 125 pounds per square foot of area. A building 18' by 24' supported by nine posts will then weigh 54,000 lb., or 6,000 lb. per post!

Three types of foundations are used in camp buildings:

(a) Light buildings may be supported by large flat stones placed on the top of ground, first removing the surface humus to get a good bearing surface on mineral soil. If the stones are not dug in too far, no frost heave will occur.

(b) Cedar posts dug down to below the frost line (varies from 3 to 5 ft. depth in inhabited parts of Canada). Creosoting will help preserve them. They are not as good as flat stones for light buildings, and due to their decay, are not recommended for heavy buildings.

(c) Concrete posts 12" square carried down below the frost line. If they can be founded on bed rock, this is recommended. If not, they must be supported by a concrete footing at least 6" thick and of sufficient area so they won't sink into the ground. One square foot of gravel or sand will support about 5,000 lb. The same figure applies to hard and medium clay. For soft clay, muck, "rock flour" and other materials, seek professional advice. If several concrete posts are being built, so that the wooden forms may be used several times over, they will cost about $1.20 per linear foot. This includes materials, labour, formwork lumber and rent of mixer. Nine posts for an 18 x 24 building, averaging 5 feet in length each, will thus cost about $54.00. Footings are extra, about $2.00 each for average jobs.

Some camp buildings may be supported on stone piers, stone or concrete walls, and log sills placed on the ground.

Floors in frame camp buildings consist of three components:

(a) Floor sheathing—this is usually made from one inch lumber, dressed to 7/8" thickness by 3 to 6 inch width. It may be dressed on four sides (D4S), or tongued and grooved ,T&G). Spruce is usually used. A finished hardwood floor may be placed over the spruce floor, but this is unusual.

(b) Joists—these are 2" thick planks, varying from 6 to 10 inches in width, placed on their edges and spaced usually 16" apart, on which the floor sheathing is nailed. They may be either saw sized to 2 x 6, 2 x 8, or 2 x 10 inches (S.S.), or dressed to slightly smaller size (D4S). Hemlock, spruce and fir are used. Maximum spans for joists of commercial grades of these materials, for use in light occupancy camp buildings, are given below. Spacing must be 16 inches.

Nominal size of joist	Maximum span if rough joists used	Maximum span if dressed joists used
2 x 6	9'-0"	8'-4"
2 x 8	13'-1"	12'-1"
2 x 10	16'-6"	15'-3"

(c) Sills—the ends of the joists rest on timber sills made by spiking together at least two or more joists face to face. For example, if joists 2 x 8 x 12 ft. S.S. were used in a light occupancy camp building, a sill made from two 2 x 8's spiked face to face to make a 4 x 8 beam would be satisfactory, if it were supported every 6 ft. A good *rough* guide for light camp buildings is this: use doubled planks of the same size as the joists, and support them every four to six feet maximum.

Cost of floors: Using 7/8" T&G spruce flooring, 2 x 8 SS joists, and 4 x 8 sills, floors will cost about 30c per square foot for materials. This figure covers sheathing, joists and sills.

Walls in frame camp buildings are usually built from a framework of 2 x 4 lumber, covered by 1 inch sheathing of various types. The framework for one wall consists of one horizontal 2 x 4 spiked to the floor boards, called the "bottom plate", vertical 2 x 4 members spaced 24 inches apart, called "studs", and two horizontal 2 x 4 members at the top, called the "top plates". The top plates must be doubled to overlap the adjacent frames at the corners and enable them to be spiked together. They also provide some lateral rigidity to the wall. Studs may be placed closer together than 24 inches, but this is unnecessary in most camp buildings. They must be doubled at all doors and should be doubled at windows, particularly if the window opening is large. If a stud is placed every 24 inches regardless of where windows come (naturally they must be cut off above and below the window), then standard width insulation boards and plywoods will fit. You may wish to line a building at some future date and it is well to make allowances for it. It costs no more. Wall frameworks are usually built on the floor and then raised into position. If care is taken to make the floor absolutely level, the rest of the building will be facilitated, since the frameworks may be braced square while still on the floor. Once all of them are raised into position, they must be spiked together, and then plumbed and braced that way by temporary braces. The exterior sheathing is then nailed on.

In low cost buildings, the exterior sheathing is nailed directly onto the studs. It may be log siding, cove or other standard sheathings, or rough overlapping boards. They should be started below the bottom plate, on the ends of the joists, to hide the joist system. If a warmer building is desired, an exterior covering of insulboard or ten-test or other material may be applied before the lumber sheathing. This will add from 7 to 9c per square foot to the cost of the wall. Alternatively, single lumber may be used on the exterior and an insulation board applied to the interior surface of the wall. While they will likely not be considered for camp use, some exterior surface materials, such as asbestos-cement shingles, require a rough layer of boards onto which they are nailed. These rough boards are often nailed on diagonally to strengthen the wall.

Openings in the framework are left during construction for doors and windows. Horizontal 2 x 4's called

"headers" if overhead, and "sills" if underneath, are nailed in at all openings. Double headers are advised for doors, and all large windows.

Doors may be built on the job from sheathing or other material, or they may be bought from a mill. They come in standard sizes only: doors from 2′ to 2′-6″ wide are obtainable in 2″ differences of width, and all are 6″ high. Larger doors are 2′-8″ by 6′-8″, and up to 3′ x 7′. Panel doors cost about $10 each for the smaller sizes, but if fitted with a window in the upper third, will cost about $15. A cheaper door, which is recommended for camp use, is the mono-panel door made from single sheets of plywood glued to a lumber frame. They cost about $6 for smaller sizes. Standard inside doors, which are 1⅜ inches thick, are suitable for exterior camp use if well painted. The above prices refer to these.

Two types of windows are used: Double-hung windows, which are customary in city houses, consist of two sash, the upper sliding down and the lower sliding up for ventilation. They are rather expensive and unusual in camp buildings. Casement sash hinge along one edge, or occasionally along the top, and swing in or out. If they swing in, a screen can be fitted on the outside of the window. If they swing out, then the screen must be on the inside and some arrangement must be made through a hole in the screen to operate the sash. Swinging in is recommended for camp use. Casement sash prices run from $3.75 for one 2′ x 3′ with six separate panes of glass (called "lights"), to $7 for one 3′ x 4′ with 12 lights. These prices are for glazed sash, less hardware. Windows should be so located that casement sash swinging in can swing right back against the wall, otherwise they will be in the way of normal inside usage of the building. For standard sash sizes, consult a mill. Sash should be ordered before the building is started, so the correct size of opening may be left in the frame. It is expensive to cut sash down afterwards, and only a small amount may be taken off without spoiling them. This is particularly important in the case of doors. No more than ½ inch may be taken off the edge of a door in most cases, or the lock hardware won't fit.

Interior partitions are built in much the same way as exterior walls, though sometimes the top plate is single. They may be covered with lumber or plywood, or other wall boards.

The materials for exterior walls of frame camp buildings built as described, and using any of the standard exterior sheathings such as log siding, cost about 20c per square foot exclusive of sash. For ordinary buildings, a rough estimate of 25c per square foot will include an allowance for sash. If shutters are built, they will be extra.

Large frame buildings frequently sag, their walls bow outwards, or they shift out of plumb. This can be stopped by incorporating diagonal braces into the framework on long walls, and by tying the exterior walls to one another by interior partitions or tie members. Otherwise the effect of the rafters is to push the walls out and thus lower the ridge line. Perhaps this has not been too well described, but since the behaviour referred to is all too common in camp buildings, most of you will need no further explanation. Don't skimp on bracing in your buildings—it is certainly a false economy.

Perhaps a further word along this line would be advisable. If sufficient care is taken to get the floor level before you start erecting the walls, then it is a simple matter to keep the walls plumb and the top plates level. This will result in a good looking building that creates confidence in the minds of those using your camp. If the walls aren't plumb or the building square, the rafters never fit properly and the build-

ing becomes an eyesore.

Which brings us up to roof systems. Three kinds of roofs may be used in camp buildings:

(a) Flat or slightly sloping roofs sloping in one direction only. These are fairly cheap but do not offer good snow protection and are of questionable appearance.

(b) Gable roofs—these employ sloping rafters meeting at a ridge. The triangular, or "gable", end of the building formed by the roof is then filled in with wall material. All the rafters are the same shape and size, and are called "common rafters". They rest on the ridge board at the top and on the top plate of the wall at the bottom. Rafters are made from 2 x 4 or 2 x 6 lumber, the former being satisfactory for spans up to about 10 feet in most parts of Canada. They are spaced at 16 or 24 inches. Every second pair of rafters should be braced by a horizontal member placed about half way down the roof, called a "collar tie".

(c) Hip or cottage roofs—these employ several different sizes and shapes of rafters which result in there being no gable ends in the building. If the building is square, then the roof rises to a point. If it is rectangular, then there is a ridge equal in length to the difference between the side and end dimensions. The ridge is connected to the corners of the building by "hip rafters". Rafters running from the wall to the hip rafters are called "jack rafters". If the building has a projecting wing, there will be a valley formed in the roof at that point. This type of roof is stronger than the gable roof, it employs no more material for any given building and the expense of filling in the gable is eliminated. It is thus more economical. Better carpentry is required to cut the rafters. Rafters can be 2 x 4 lumber for almost all camp use. Hip rafters are often longer than 16 feet, the longest commercial length of lumber readily obtainable. They may be made up from spliced 2 x 4 lumber.

The pitch of either a gable or hip roof is found by dividing the vertical height from the level of the top plate of the walls to the ridge of the roof, by the width across the building. Buildings should be designed with quarter, third or half pitch. If the building were 12 feet wide, its roof height would then be 3, 4 or 6 feet respectively. Third pitch is recommended for camp use. It is economical, and easy to cut and work on. The total area of a third pitch roof, regardless of whether it is hip or gable type, is always 1.2 times the area of the floor it covers. This is handy in cost estimating.

In any of the three roof types, the rafters are covered with 1 inch lumber sheathing, either S.S. or dressed on the inside only (D1S). Occasionally T&G lumber is used. A layer of tar paper may then be applied, or the roofing material applied directly to the sheathing. Asphalt base mineral covered roll roofing, or asphalt strip shingles may be used. Cedar shingles are also used. Shingles and roofing are bought by the "square", or 100 sq. feet of coverage. Asphalt shingles weigh 210 lb. per square, and cost about $9 per square. Roll roofing is cheaper, depending on the quality.

Roofs using 2 x 4 rafters, 1 inch sheathing and 210 lb. asphalt shingles cost about 25c per square foot; with roll roofiing, about 20c.

Some consideration must also be given to the following items in a camp building: screens for the windows (put them on frames and take them off in the winter), verandas and steps to doors, painting, and hardware. Space will not permit their being covered, but you must keep these items in mind.

And now for a final word of caution. All the figures quoted herein are only applicable to light occupancy camp buildings of ordinary size. If you contemplate a larger structure, or run into unusual problems, consult a reliable authority.

Experiences in Winter Camping

W. E. (Ted) Yard,

Director of Camping, Toronto Central Y.M.C.A.

In December, 1943, inspired possibly by an appreciation for the unique log cabin community on Hollyburn Ridge, the Vancouver Y.M.C.A. sponsored its first winter camp for boys. Twenty-three boys and seven staff people travelled the three-hour trip by ferry, bus, and "shanks' pony" to the big log lodge on top of Hollyburn—thirty-five hundred feet above the famed Lion's Gate Bridge! At pre-camp planning meetings the boys had decided to call their six-day Christmas holiday outing "The Skyline Camp for Boys", and "cabin" groups were "highriggers", "sparkchasers", "whistlepunks", and "snag fallers". In keeping with the logging camp theme, leaders were "hookers", and the director was "the push". Program plans, based on winter sports, and on the development of skills in outdoor winter living, grew easily—almost spontaneously! The memorable experiences of this short camp are still vivid to staff and campers alike, for example, the sight of youngsters tumbling downstairs in their mountain top lodge to literally gasp at the never-to-be-forgotten spectacle of snow-capped, ten-thousand-foot Mount Baker, framed, ninety miles away, in a flaming sunrise!

In evaluating that small camping project certain values were recognized:

1. Although the six-day period was short, pre-camp meetings provided opportunities to get acquainted and to develop program plans, both of which would have taken valuable time at camp.

2. There were a number of *memorable* experiences, and every boy learned some outdoor skills with which he had never before been concerned.

3. The staff group, working under almost 'ideal" conditions, knew *every* boy well, and became an exceptionally close knit working unit.

4. Winter camp, bringing campers and staff together in mid-winter, in a relationship otherwise difficult to achieve, was later to prove genuinely helpful to the organization of the summer camp.

Most camping people today see their work as an integral part of a total educative process, and many feel that the unique contribution of the organized camp in this area lies in the continual unfolding of the story of the out-of-doors, the true heritage of every Canadian boy and girl. Generally, of course, we will travel the route of the canoe, of pack trail, or of summer nature path, but sometimes we are reminded that snow and ice too are a part of this great Canadian heritage—and with them, the use of the ski and snowshoe, the primitive skills of living and travelling in frozen woodlands among leafless trees.

In December, 1950, thirty camp people, boys and staff, left Toronto Central Y.M.C.A. by bus, for a six-day winter holiday at Camp Pinecrest, one hundred and twenty-five miles to the north. This was the second annual Christmas camp at Pinecrest. Here are a few of the things that this camp experience demonstrated to certain individual campers:

Learning how to take care of a wood fire is a pretty important thing when you depend on it for your sleeping comfort.

Water is a much more valuable commodity when pumped from a deep well.

An open fireplace takes on a new importance after a long day with snow and skis.

The most popular radio program of all is tomorrow's weather forecast!

The hill we skirted on the summer portage, becomes the goal of a winter ski jaunt.

There are new dangers in snow and ice, and we must learn the safety rules.

* * *

The values we recognize in the Annual Pinecrest Winter Camp are almost identical to those which emerged from the earlier Skyline Camp.

Eminent authorities, both in our country and in the United States, predict that the ideal of "every child a camper" will be achieved only when camping becomes a part of the accepted school curriculum. Winter camping will enter this framework in a consequential way only when we develop at least a nucleus of trained leadership, and a backlog of recorded experience. Small winter camps sponsored by agencies, by service clubs, by Boy Scouts, and by private camps, are even now creating this foundation.

It was not of a seasonal, but rather of a *year 'round* heritage of the out of doors that John Fisher said: "The historian commits it to paper, the statesman prods, the author reminds, but *the campers are the keepers.*"

—☆—

So You Think You're Covered

M. H. Crone,
Maryland Casualty Company

Paying money for insurance is a "pain in the neck" until you need it. When the occasion arises that you do need it, following a catastrophe, there is no one any happier than the manager of your insurance company when he can tell his claimant that he is fully covered and will be completely reimbursed for his loss or damage. Unfortunately, those engaged in the general insurance business have not yet employed the modern system of hiring public relations personnel for the purpose of letting the public know something about our problems and the general sympathetic attitude adopted toward the problems of those that pay the premiums.

The purpose of this and succeeding articles is to draw your attention, as forcibly as possible, to the fact that when you purchase a policy of insurance you have purchased a contract which agrees to indemnify you for a loss sustained from a specified hazard, or several hazards. In every policy of insurance there also appears the exclusions which detail certain conditions under which your insuring company will not be called upon to reimburse the policyholder if a loss should occur because of one or more of the specified exclusions. These exclusions are all there for good reasons and I am sure you will find justification for many of these very obvious.

Let us examine your fire insurance in the first article. Do you realize that your policy of fire insurance does not allow the following without special permission:

(a) More than one quart of gasoline in any building.

(b) More than five gallons of fuel oil in any building.

(c) The use of stovepipe or unsafe chimneys.

(d) The disposal of ashes in unflammable containers.

(e) Continuous vacancy or unoccupancy for more than thirty days.

A fire, caused by a violation of any of the above restrictions, will actually void your policy and according to contract your insurance company is not compelled to reimburse the policyholder for his loss. Now don't jump off the deep end and blast the insurance companies for including these restrictive measures in their contract. It is a little known fact among laymen that these and other conditions must appear in your policies because of Provincial Statutes known as Insurance Acts. Some of these restrictions can be lessened or removed altogether, but to effect any change your policy must specially mention the changes desired and this generally entails a slightly higher premium charge.

A few more points should be drawn to your attention which could either restrict or void your coverage entirely:

(a) Additional insurance effected without permission from all other insuring companies covering the same property.

(b) Effecting a mortgage or registered lien without notifying your insurer.

(c) Change of ownership.

You can readily see from the above remarks that it will pay you dividends to know what you are purchasing when you buy fire insurance.

Just a word of advice to camp operators in particular. Summer camps are invariably composed of several buildings and there are two methods of effecting fire insurance — the specific form and the blanket form. Under the specific form a separate amount of insurance is placed on each building and on the contents of each building. Under the blanket form it is required that you insure up to 90% of your total value on buildings and contents, but you insure for one sum over all. Therefore, if one building or several buildings are destroyed by fire under the blanket form you are reimbursed for your full loss instead of being limited to a specific sum on each building and its contents.

Now for a word of warning! Building and equipment values have increased so rapidly the last few years it would be advisable for you to obtain the services of a competent appraiser to determine your present insurable values. It comes as a distinct shock to most property owners when they find that their present insurance would only replace one-third of a building, should it be destroyed. Ten years ago a building that was fully insured for a sum of $5,000.00 is now only insured to approximately 35% of its value. I cannot emphasize this point too strongly.

Space does not permit more than a generalization on this subject, but these few remarks may be of some assistance to you in determining whether or not your present fire insurance is written correctly and for adequate amounts.

In succeeding issues the same theme will be discussed on other classes of insurance coverage which are of importance to the owners and operators of summer camps.

Association Notes

A meeting of the Board of the Canadian Camping Association was held at the Y.W.C.A. in Montreal, on December 10th, 1950. Out-of-town members were invited the previous evening to view the new headquarters at 771 Burnside Street. Those from Ontario expressed admiration for the spaciousness of the new office and the attractiveness of the large windows and furnishings.

The principal business dealt with at the board meeting consisted of a co-operative effort to analyse correctly and comprehensively the functions of all National Committees.

Those present included: Anne Vail, Agnes Mutchler, Dorothy Percival, Dais Gass, Nora Bailey, Ruby Smith, Kenneth Murray, C. A. Wylie, Roy Locke, Sam Freedman, and from Ontario, Mary Edgar, Joyce Bertram and C. T. Sharpe.

BIENNIAL NATIONAL AND QUEBEC CONFERENCE

There's big news from Quebec this year. The Canadian Camping Association is holding its Biennial National Conference in conjunction with the 1951 Spring Conference of the Quebec and Eastern Ontario Association. The dates are April 6, 7, and 8th, in Montreal, at the Grenadier Guard's Armoury. All Canadian Camping Association members are invited to attend the joint conference, which promises to be a landmark in the history of the Canadian camping movement.

Plans for the big event are well under way, and the program committee, under the chairmanship of Roy D. Locke, president of the Quebec Association, has already met several times. The theme of the conference will be "Outdoor living", and while details of the program are not completely arranged at the time of going to press, nor is it possible to announce the names of the key speakers, it is safe to say that this should prove to be a most outstanding program on outdoor living.

A new twist to the program will be provided by dividing some of the conference topics into three integrated workshops or seminars, following each other in logical sequence. It is thus hoped to provide those attending the conference with a more co-ordinated information on campcraft, naturelore and handicrafts than could be provided in single one-hour sessions. All these groups will be led by recognized authorities in their respective fields, who have had many years of practical camp experience.

There will also be key speakers highlighting the conference themes, seminars on many topics not mentioned above, dinners, sing-songs, outstanding commercial exhibits, and ample opportunity to meet and chat with other camp directors. The conference proper will take place on Friday evening, April 6, and all day Saturday, April 7, while the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Camping Association will be held on Sunday morning, April 8.

Canadian Camping Association members will receive complete details by mail in the near future. It is hoped that members from every province will be able to attend, and thus make it possible to have a truly national conference. The opportunity of meeting camping people from right across this great Dominion of ours, presents itself but rarely, and we extend a warm-hearted invitation to our fellow campers in all parts of Canada to join us on this historic occasion.

SAM FREEDMAN,
Conference Chairman.

Ontario Section

Canada's Largest Annual Gathering

of

CAMPING PEOPLE

March 2 and 3

Once again the long-established Annual Conference, sponsored by the Ontario Camping Association, will be held at the Central Y.W.C.A., 21 McGill Street, in Toronto, on March 2nd and 3rd. Outstanding speakers and discussion leaders from both Canada and the United States will play important roles in making this one of the most stimulating camping conferences the O.C.A. has presented.

Commercial firms, recognizing the number of camp directors and managers who attend this affair annually, will have a larger representation than ever, displaying their commercial exhibits—the very latest in camp equipment and supplies.

The non-commercial exhibits will be of special interest to program people, and everyone present is bound to find his or her way to the publications' corner, to look over the large assortment of books and pamphlets related to all phases of camping work.

No one will agree with *all* the statements of our guest speakers; no one will be *wholly* in accord with the findings of our discussion groups, but *everyone* will find *fellowship, practical help,* and *thought-provoking ideas,* at the Central Y.W.C.A., Toronto, on March 2nd and 3rd.

Those wishing further information, registration material or assistance in securing accommodation, should write to Miss Joyce Bertram, executive-secretary, Ontario Camping Association, 236 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ont.

Quebec Section

The Quebec Section of the Canadian Camping Association held two meetings before Christmas. At the opening meeting in October, we had members from various camps tell us of their summer experiences. We heard about a red-letter day at one camp, how another built a summer program around a central theme, religion in camp, how one camp endeavoured to encourage democratic practises, etc. It was an interesting meeting and particularly effective since a number took part.

At our November meeting, Mr. Sam Vatcher of the Y.M.C.A., spoke on Indian camp fire ceremonies. Mr. Vatcher's presentation provoked considerable discussion and questions. A sing-song and refreshments, plus Mr. Vatcher's talk, made it a good evening.

In December, when a Board Meeting of the Canadian Camping Association was held in Montreal, the Quebec Section were delighted to entertain at luncheon, members from Toronto and Montreal.



The Editor Comments

Definitions of camping are many and varied. From a collection of them, the following are submitted for your cogitation. The first comes from an article in a recent issue of Saturday Evening Post. "Camping — a warm-weather bivouac which absorbs the energies, bewilderment, affection and devilment of some half-million jet-propelled youngsters every vacation time."

From the pen of the well-known writer, Angelo Patri, comes the following: "Camp is a bit of life in the open, where children are to gather educational experiences from nature; a place where they may listen to the silence of the stars and perhaps hear God speak. A place where they may catch His whisper in the still forest, and see His hand in the faint traceries of a wild flower's petal. Make sure it is like that, and the uniform won't matter."

From Dr. Mary L. Northway's "Canadian Camping — Its Foundation and Its Future": "If camping is to continue its development in the future we, the camping people, must believe in it. It is our child, so attractive, so interesting that many people want to claim it as their own. Camping is not school, though it is educational; camping is not case work, though it is concerned with the welfare of the individual. Camping is not a physical fitness program, although it is concerned with developing well-being and enjoyment through sports and athletics. Nor is camping psychiatry or psychotherapy, although it may well resolve the conflicts and anxieties of children and give them practice in the fundamentals of psychological health. No, camping calls on all those institutions and uses their assets in its program. It also contributes its unique resources to their efforts. Camping can give so many new insights to education and social work. We see children as campers and come to understand them differently than the teacher or the psychiatrist. These insights it is our duty to pass on to the more formal fields of child guidance."

In the constitution of the Canadian Camping Association, its first object is stated as being: "To further the interests and welfare of children, youth and adults through camping as an educative, character-building and constructive recreational experience."

"The man who plants a tree becomes a partner with God in the creative act, for we cannot build trees, we can only preside at the mystery of their growth."

—☆—

LETTERS to the Editor

An Additional Safeguard

It has been brought to my attention by the Canadian Red Cross Society that there are reports of children who have either been drowned or have had near drowning eccidents which have later been proved to be due to peculiarities or illness in these children. I wonder, therefore, if you would be good enough to give space in your editorial pages to the following recommendations to camp directors. First of all, it is important that all medical certificates for campers should include a question relating to the presence in the child of the following conditions which might be associated with extra hazards as far as swimming is concerned; allergies such as asthma and hay fever, chronic bronchitis, heart conditions of any kind, epilepsy, fits, fainting spells, nervousness and excitability. A specific question should be inserted in the medical report for the attention of both the

parent and the physician, asking the following question: "Is there any known reason why this child should have more than ordinary supervision during swimming?"

I trust that camps of all kinds are aware of the necessity of obtaining as much information regarding the previous health of the child as possible in order that proper precautions can be taken for safeguarding the health of campers during the time that they are at the camp.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,

J. H. EBBS, M.D.

Dr. J. H. Ebbs, M.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.R.C.P. (C)—Staff, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, is chairman of the Health and Safety Committee of the Canadian Camping Association.

RE THE PROBLEM OF FOOD-PARCELS

Please consider the enclosed letter for publication in *Canadian Camping*. I am in complete agreement with the statement made by Dr. Butler and hope that Camp Directors in this country will seriously consider the curtailment of candies, chocolate bars, chewing gum and soft drinks, both in camp and at sources of supply available to campers.

Not only should those parents who send supplies of sweets to campers during the summer be requested to discontinue this practice, but those parents who do conscientiously try to establish good health practices with their children, should be given support. Perhaps this should be a subject for discussion at a future meeting or conference of camping people.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,

J. H. EBBS, M.D.

DENTAL DANGERS AT CAMP

Dear Dr. Ebbs:

It has been our experience that many children are permitted the excessive use of sweets during their stay at summer camps. In many cases these children have well regulated diets throughout the year in their homes and, as you know, the consumption of excess sweets is contrary to today's health teachings. The period during which the children are at camp is sufficient time for dental decay to begin. Also a habit can be formed which cannot easily be broken, thus hindering the efforts of those endeavouring to teach better health habits.

The dental profession is greatly concerned about this matter and we feel that immediate steps must be taken to eliminate, if possible, or, at least greatly reduce, the excess sugar consumption.

The dental conditions of our children today are alarming and it is our sincere hope that our educational program will make parents more conscious of their responsibility to their children and also make them fully realize the seriousness of the problem with which they are faced.

Anything you can do to assist in solving this problem will be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,

R. R. BUTLER, Chairman,

Dental Public Health Committee.

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Book Reviews

GAMES AND PARTIES THE YEAR ROUND: by Nellie M. Lewis; Ryerson Press, Toronto; pp. 144; price, $1.75.

The many young people enrolled last spring in the Counselor Training Course of the Ontario Camping Association, will remember that outstanding evening when Nellie Lewis took charge of games and stunts. On the staff of the Ontario Religious Education Council, Miss Lewis has had wide experience in the field of recreation and is in constant demand for leadership in recreational courses and with group programs.

Her book contains a wealth of usable material for parties, playgrounds, camps and communities. There are hundreds of active games, quiet games and singing games, as well as stunts, contests, puzzles and tricks, all of which have been used successfully many times by the writer. They have been collected, discovered and originated over a period of years, for "scrap-book-itis" has been one of her hobbies, and she says, "the hall mark of a good leader is to be ever-ready with a game when one is called for or needed." This book will be a most practical addition to a select library of books for camp. To quote again: "A leader is a person with a magnet in his heart, and a compass in his head."

CAMP CATERING: by the Hildebrands; Ryerson Press, Toronto; pp. 102; price, $2.25.

The sub-title of this book suggests its unique purpose: "How to rustle grub for hikers, campers, mountaineers, packers, canoeists, hunters, fishermen and skiers." With this specialized purpose in view, it is a cook book for "the hardy appetites and healthy hankerings of all who must prepare their food in the camper's kitchen." Being of such a nature, one finds information on equipment, fires, recipes and many practical suggestions for hunters and fishermen



Avoid the Rush . . .

Make a date to attend the

1951

Ontario Camping Association

CONFERENCE

March 2 and 3

Y.W.C.A., TORONTO

—★—

SPEAKERS

Joshua Lieberman, author of "Creative Camping", Director of Camp Robinson Crusoe.

Fay Welch, Faculty Member, New York School of Forestry, and a Private Camp Director.

. . . and our own

Professor Charles E. Hendry.

—★—

ONTARIO CAMPING ASSOCIATION

236 BLOOR ST. WEST, TORONTO

on game cookery—suggestions gathered from hardy old-timers who have learned their lore from a life time of experience.

The book is humorous and the cartoon illustrations are most amusing. "The life in the open will give you abundant appetite; may this little book help you to its abundant satisfaction."

"C.G.I.T. CAMP MANUAL": The whole camp fraternity will welcome this. It is a complete revision of its forerunner, plus much notable new material; a composite production, the work of their National Camp Committee, with very special help from Miss Margaret Govan. Published 1950 by Publications Committee, Department of Christian Education, Canadian Council of Churches. Obtainable from any Provincial Education Council, or from Department of Christian Education, 299 Queen Street West, Toronto 2B, Ontario. Price, $1.25.

An excellent handbook; intensely interesting, practical and readable; fine paper, attractively arranged and illustrated, good appearance, inexpensive. It is in harmony with the soundest theories and finest philosophy of camping. Well organized, and just crowded with answers to the host of problems, small and large, that crop up in every branch and aspect of every type of camp. Applicable and useful to camps varying in length from a week-end to the whole summer. Ninety per cent. or more of its material might have been written for boys' or private camps, though prepared especially for girls and non-profit camps. Large-expense ideas are conspicuous by their absence.

The complete contents of the book proclaim it to be the head, heart and handiwork of fine-spirited contributors with a wealth of ideas born of long and practical experience. It's a book that every staff member, from junior counselor through food-service staff and handyman, to director, and all camp-committee people will read with interest, stimulation and profit. An amazing amount of very varied and most practical help is presented in a minimum space and for a modest price. A book that will give anyone associated with a camp in any capacity a fine appreciation of her (his) individual contribution, and how it can fit into the attractive mosaic that a well-conducted camp is.

There are eighty-seven 5½ by 8½-inch pages presenting twenty-four chapters, plus an index of one hundred camp topics, plus four hundred page-references to individual sub-topics. They embrace such items as: new and young camps, promotion, job analyses for committees and individuals, mass games, rainy-day ideas, religious observance, sound common-sense about discipline, programme, song-leading, and a very valuable section on unclassified odds-and-ends; indeed, this book has everything. A dollar and a quarter of camp-book money can't be better invested than in this one. A short bibliography follows each chapter.

—C. T. S.

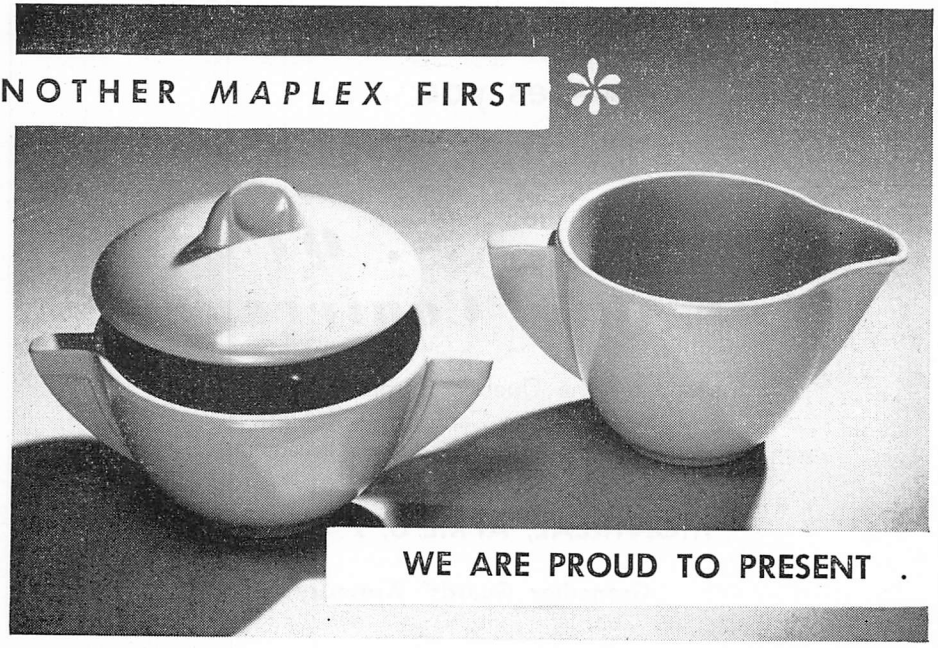
WINTER SCOUTING: by F. E. L. Coombs; 39 pp., illustrated. The Canadian General Council, Boy Scouts Association, Ottawa; 1950; price, 25 cents.

Here's a basic "how to do it" booklet that any boy (and many "grown-ups") would be pleased to study before making a winter hike or camping trip.

Data covers different types of footwear, sleeping bags, ski and snowshoe travel, weather hints, winter first aid, living off the country, loading the toboggan, how to keep warm, what to take, what to cook, etc. Excellent pen and ink illustrations.

—R. H. M.

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Grenadier Guards' Armoury

——::——

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

"Cap'n Bill" Vinal: Professor of Nature Education, University of Massachusetts, outstanding lecturer, author, traveller, and authority on Nature-lore.

Dr. Carter Storr: Co-author of THE CANOE AND YOU, well known for his cartoon-illustrated talks; will lead workshops on campcraft.

Dr. Taylor Statten, Jr.: Child Psychiatrist, Children's Memorial Hospital, Montreal, and member of a famous Canadian Camping family.

Miss Betty Jaques: Art Instructor, Macdonald College, a leading exponent of creative Art, will lead workshops on handicrafts in camp.

Mrs. Alice Turnham: Assistant Curator, Redpath Museum, McGill University, an outstanding personality in the field of Nature-lore.

ALL C.C.A. MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE COMPLETE INFORMATION BY MAIL

For further information, write:

The Canadian Camping Association,
Room 211, 771 Burnside Street,
Montreal, Quebec.

TRADING POST

CAMPS AND CONSERVATION

For some time past, we have considered new ways by which camps might aid in forest conservation and protection, and we have thought that a very effective medium might be through a campaign of postal seals somewhat of the nature of the T.B. Christmas seals. If a small, suitable design and slogan, such as "Keep Canada Green", were incorporated on the seal, and if it could be arranged that all camp and camper mail could bear one of these, the result might be very effective.

The Canadian Forestry Association has plates for five different stamps in full colours, about 1½ x 2⅛ inches, which they supply in sheets of 100 (20 of each stamp). Each stamp portrays an outdoor scene with a suitable slogan. The stamps are, to some extent, in short supply at present, but it is understood that the Canadian Forestry Association would re-issue them if the interest warranted, at about 20 cents per sheet of 100 stamps, or one-fifth of a cent per stamp.

It would help if some idea could be formed as to how many might be used. Two thousand might be a fair figure for our camp, and if camp directors in general were interested, numbers might run to at least fifty thousand, perhaps more.

If any move were contemplated for the coming season, it would be necessary for the editor to know the reaction of camp directors as soon as possible.

C. H. IRWIN, Director,
Sherwood Forest Camp.

Depend on PARENTS' MAGAZINE to produce more enrollments for your camp every year...

Most camps do!

In fact, more camps advertise in PARENT'S MAGAZINE than in any other leading consumer magazine.

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What's more:

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PLASTIC TABLE WARE

Camp directors who have switched from porcelain or crockery table ware to plastic ware seem unanimous in their estimate of its superiority for camp use. Loss through breakage is almost eliminated; there is practically none of the noisy clatter of heavy-duty crockery. There is less of the excessive weight for the kitchen staff to handle and there is a color appeal which seems to make food even more appetizing to eager campers.

In the experimental stage, some of us tried a light-weight, cheap variety of plastic ware which proved most unsatisfactory. However, we have been using for several seasons a line of table ware bearing the trade name Maplex, molded of Melmac (advertised in this issue). This product, we find, will withstand abuse to a considerably greater degree than any previously used, and it is also available in many attractive colors.

The staining of cups when tea or coffee is used, has been greatly reduced by proper cleaning techniques; in fact, it can be completely eliminated by a new detergent—trial-size cans of which are available from the Maple Leaf Plastics Limited.

—M. S. E.

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PETERBOROUGH ONTARIO CANADA

A "CORKING" GOOD STUNT

It is really much better than any mere statement of how to do it would suggest. Useful as an observation and participation stunt for large or small groups.

Place an ordinary cork, about the size of a thimble (or even a thimble itself, if unbreakable) on the outer edge of a table, large end down. Ask someone to approach the table, following a line that runs parallel to the edge of the table on which the cork rests. As the person passes the cork he must attempt to dislodge it by flicking it with his right forefinger, in the same manner as if shooting in crokinole. The knuckle *must* be up (towards the ceiling) as the "shot" is made. And the flicking must be done by holding the tip of the forefinger with the thumb until the moment of "shooting".

Require each person to start from a spot *at least* ten paces from the cork, to proceed at a *brisk* walking pace, and not to vary the speed until after the "shot" has been made. If the space is limited, and placing the table in the middle of one side of the room does not provide enough walking distance, then move the table much nearer to one side of the room than the other, as it does not matter how few paces follow the actual shot at the cork. Have the participants walk *from* the side that keeps their right side to the cork.

If it is desired to add an additional degree of difficulty (though the foregoing will be found hard enough—just try it!) then put the cork on top of a spool, and require that it be dislodged without moving the spool. Stage the stunt where all present can enjoy each other's attempt.

Just two iron-clad rules: 1. Walk at a *brisk* and unvaried pace from a spot *at least* ten paces from the cork—the further the walk the poorer the results; and 2. Hold the forefinger with the thumb, and have the knuckle *up* when the shot is made. Sounds easy, but just try it!

—C. T. S.



A HIGHLIGHT
. . . For Camp Life!

You can capture the true spirit of camp life if your counsellors and camp directors wear these Sportsman Moccasins

—★—

. . . And campers will enjoy their holiday more in this comfortable and typical north woods footwear.

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They are just the thing for boating, canoeing—camp activities of all kinds. Made from heavy bull hide leather, they will last for years.

—★—

Sportsman Moccasins are obtainable in two styles—with and without soles. Everything to make them comes in a kit. Nothing else to buy. Leather is pre-cut for perfect style. You simply lace sections together.

—★—

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The secret lies in always keeping up to date with the latest ideas in organized camping.

Your camp was built on ideas. Its continued success depends on new ideas you obtain and use in the future. The best way to keep abreast of latest camping developments, say thousands of successful camping people, is by regularly reading the up-to-the-minute, authoritative articles which appear each month in the magazines serving camps.

Alert camp directors and their staffs read about tried and proved ideas in the latest CAMPING MAGAZINE and THE CAMP DIRECTOR'S HANDBOOK AND BUYING GUIDE. They know the danger of static thinking and obsolete ideas. You, too, will find these publications a never-ending source of new, usable ideas.

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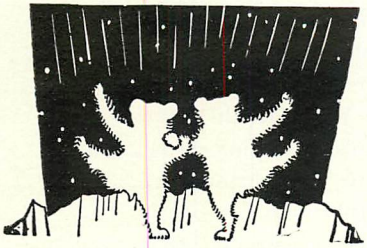
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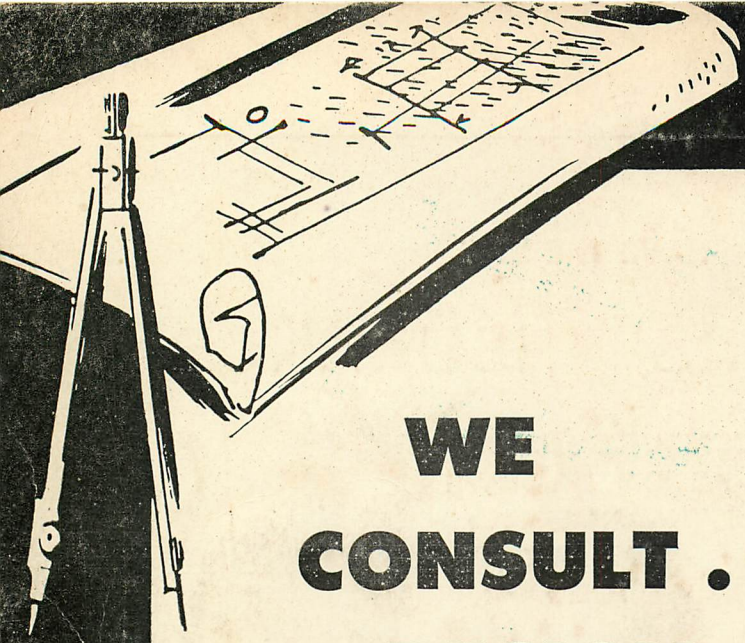
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